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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF BODMIN**

FOR THE YEAR 1946.

BODMIN :
PRINTED BY W. H. PHILLIPS, FORE STREET.

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TO THE BODMIN BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1946.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)—3,311.

Population—5,265.

Number of inhabited houses end of 1946 according to the rate books—1,269.

Rateable value—£28,686.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£112-8-6.

Social Conditions.

The town is a residential one and the shopping and marketing centre for the surrounding agricultural district.

It has no large industries but is a good centre for holiday makers and tourists.

Extracts from vital statistics of the year.

	M.	F.	Total
Live births	47	32	79
Legitimate	41	29	70
Illegitimate	6	3	9

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population—15.

	M.	F.	Total
Still births	2	0	2
Legitimate	2	0	2

Deaths of infants under one year of age -

	M.	F.	Total
	3	3	6
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate		2	2

Death rate per 1,000 live births—75·9

The chief causes of death were premature birth and congenital defects.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough or of children under two years of age from Diarrhœa.

There were no deaths from puerpural Sepsis or other maternal causes.

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths	35	34	69

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—13·1.

The chief causes of death were—

Heart disease	...	18 deaths.
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	9	„
Cancer	...	6 „
Bronchitis	...	4 „

Comparison of Birth and Death rates with those for England and Wales :—

		England and Wales
Birth rate	... 15	19·1
Death rate	... 13 1	11·5
Infantile death rate	75·9	43

General Provision of Health Services.

Medical Officer of Health—J. H. Hobling (part time Officer) who is also Medical Officer of Health for the Wadebridge Rural District, Examining Factory Surgeon and Public Vaccinator.

Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector—J. Miles. He is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Ambulance Facilities.

The St. John's Ambulance Society have a Motor Ambulance stationed in the town with a trained personnel for dealing with accidents and the transport of patients suffering from non-infectious diseases.

For infectious cases there are County Ambulances stationed at Truro.

Nursing in the Home.

There are District Nurses for this purpose supplied by the County Nursing Association.

There is a maternity clinic and child welfare centre.

The County Council are now the ruling authority for child welfare. They pay a fee of 2/6 for each injection for the immunization of children against diphtheria up to 5 years of age. The Borough Council pay a similar fee for the immunization of children from 5 to 15 years of age inclusive.

Hospitals.

The Bodmin and East Cornwall Hospital which is situated in the town treats ordinary Medical and Surgical cases in the Borough and surrounding district.

Infectious cases are dealt with in the County Isolation Hospital, Truro.

Sanitary circumstances of the area.

Water Supply.

This is owned by a private Company. The general supply has been satisfactory throughout the year although acute shortage has frequently been reported from the Council's housing estates at Halgavor View and Green Lane. The matter has been taken up by the Company and promises have been made to the effect that a new 4-inch main will be laid to replace the existing 2-inch main. The lack of pressure on the higher levels of the town must seriously limit the area of potential building sites in the Borough and should receive the early attention of the Company.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

During the year an extension of the sewerage

system was made by the laying out of an additional length of 9" sewer to connect the 14 new houses at Green Lane with the main outfall sewer.

The work scheduled at Scarletts Well has been carried out with marked improvement in the effluent.

The Dragon Pit works continue to provide a good effluent.

Scavenging.

This service has been carried out during the year in a satisfactory manner, the refuse being disposed of by controlled tipping.

A new moter refuse vehicle was purchased to take the place of the old worn out one.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A routine inspection of dairies, cowsheds and retail food shops has been carried out with satisfactory results.

The slaughtering of animals for food is carried out in a central Government slaughter house for the whole district.

This system makes for efficient inspection and has worked satisfactorily.

Housing.

Ten new houses were completed by the Council's contractors at the Green Lane estate during the year.

No houses were completed under private enterprise although several were in course of erection at the end of the year.

**Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year.**

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	12	0
Diphtheria	1	0
Pneumonia	1	1
Puerpural Pyrexia	1	0

All the cases were notified in Public Institutions situated in the Borough.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during the year—

No cases were notified during the year.

There were two deaths of males from Respiratory Tuberculosis.

No action was taken under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis engaged in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. HOBLING,

Medical Officer of Health.

